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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-706PCT

Applicant(s) : Andreas Ritter, et al

Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP04/12796)

Int. Filed : November 11, 2004

For : OPTIMISED SHIFT STRATEGY AS A FUNCTION
OF STRIP WIDTH

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the
claims as follows: